

EPA-5757

Gina
McCarthy/DC/USEPA/US
12/23/2010 08:19 PM

To "Doniger, David"
cc
bcc
Subject Re: Happy Holidays

Thanks David. I really appreciate your support and your patience. Enjoy the holiday. This success is yours as much as mine.

From: "Doniger, David" [ddoniger@nrdc.org]
Sent: 12/23/2010 06:30 PM EST
To: Gina McCarthy
Subject: Happy Holidays

Gina,

Thank you for today's announcement. I know how hard you and your team are working to move us forward and keep us on the rails. The announcement is a major achievement. To paraphrase Ben Franklin: "Friends, you have your NSPS, now let's see if you can keep it." We'll be with you at every step in the year ahead.

David

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Menu



Carbon Pollution Standards

2010 Proposed Settlement Agreements to Address Greenhouse Gas Emissions

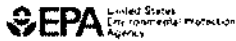
The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set new source performance standards (NSPS) for industrial categories that cause, or significantly contribute to, air pollution that may endanger public health or welfare. On December 23, 2010, the Environmental Protection Agency entered into two proposed settlement agreements to issue rules that will address greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel-fired power plants and refineries.

- Press release on the settlements
- Listening sessions on greenhouse gas standards for fossil fuel-fired power plants and petroleum refineries

Fossil fuel-fired power plants produce electricity by burning fossil fuel – primarily coal. Petroleum refineries refine crude petroleum into a number of products including gasoline, kerosene, asphalt, lubricants, solvents and a variety of other products. These two industrial sectors make up nearly 40 percent of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions.

You will need Adobe Reader to view some of the files on this page. See EPA's About PDF page to learn more.

- Fact Sheet: Settlement agreements to address greenhouse gas emissions from electric generating units and refineries (PDF) (3 pp, 58 K)
- Settlement Agreement for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants - December 23, 2010 (PDF) (21 pp, 613 K)
- Modification to the Settlement Agreement for Fossil Fuel-Fired Power Plants - June 13, 2011 (PDF) (15 pp, 851 K)
- Settlement Agreement for Petroleum Refineries - December 23, 2010 (PDF) (23 pp, 693 K)



Newsroom By Date

EPA to Set Modest Pace for Greenhouse Gas Standards / Agency stresses flexibility and public input in developing cost-effective and protective GHG standards for largest emitters

Release Date: 12/23/2010

Contact Information: Cathy Milbourn, Milbourn.cathy@epa.gov, 202-564-7849, 202-564-4355

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued its plan for establishing greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution standards under the Clean Air Act in 2011. The agency looked at a number of sectors and is moving forward on GHG standards for fossil fuel power plants and petroleum refineries—two of the largest industrial sources, representing nearly 40 percent of the GHG pollution in the United States. The schedule issued in today's agreements provides a clear path forward for these sectors and is part of EPA's common-sense approach to addressing GHGs from the largest industrial pollution sources.

"We are following through on our commitment to proceed in a measured and careful way to reduce GHG pollution that threatens the health and welfare of Americans, and contributes to climate change," Administrator Lisa Jackson said. "These standards will help American companies attract private investment to the clean energy upgrades that make our companies more competitive and create good jobs here at home."

Several states, local governments and environmental organizations sued EPA over the agency's failure to update the pollution standards for fossil fuel power plants and petroleum refineries, two of the largest source categories of GHG pollution in the United States. Under today's agreement, EPA will propose standards for power plants in July 2011 and for refineries in December 2011 and will issue final standards in May 2012 and November 2012, respectively.

This schedule will allow the agency to host listening sessions with the business community, states and other stakeholders in early 2011, well before the rulemaking process begins, as well as to solicit additional feedback during the routine notice and comment period. Together this feedback will lead to smart, cost-effective and protective standards that reflect the latest and best information.

The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set industry-specific standards for new sources that emit significant quantities of harmful pollutants. These standards, called New Source Performance Standards (NSPS), set the level of pollution new facilities may emit and address air pollution from existing facilities. The Act allows flexible and innovative approaches that take into account cost, health and environmental impacts, and energy requirements. EPA must also periodically update these standards to reflect improvements in control technologies.

Earlier this year, EPA issued a common-sense approach to GHG permitting for the largest industrial sources. This approach, the GHG permitting guidelines issued in November, and these standards will give power plants and refineries a clear and sensible path for addressing GHG pollution.

EPA will accept public comment on these two agreements for 30 days following publication of notice in the Federal Register.

More information: <http://www.epa.gov/airquality/ghgsettlement.html>

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